

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 9, 2004, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. No claims are added or cancelled so that claims 1-7 remain pending.

The Examiner requested the addition of a prior art legend to Figures 10A, 11A, and 18A. Replacement sheets including those drawing amendments are attached.

A minor error in the specification, not previously identified, is corrected in this Amendment.

In this Amendment none of claims 2-7 is amended. Each of those claims incorporates or depends from claim 1, the sole truly independent claim. Claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the description in the patent application from page 28, line 23 through page 30, line 18. This passage pertains to Figure 14 of the application which illustrates a reflector constructed of a plurality of infinitesimal mirrors. As shown in that figure and as described in amended claim 1, each successive mirror reflects a respective light ray from the illuminant to a respective point of intersection lying along a plane 8 perpendicular to the optical axis Z. The plane 8 includes the intersection of the lamp front glass with the optical axis. The outermost light ray, 7a in the illustration of Figure 14, is the most extreme light ray from the illuminant 1a. See Figures 9, 10B, and 11B, for example, with regard to the fact that the illuminant radiation does not extend over all 360° in a plane perpendicular to the arc of the illuminant.

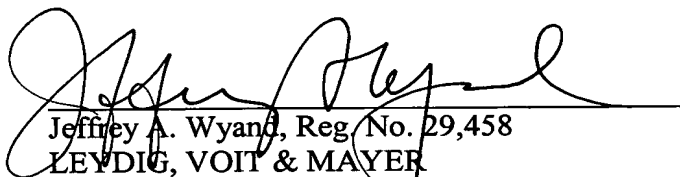
Claims 1-4 and 6 were rejected as unpatentable over Akiyama (U.S. Patent 6,688,756) and claims 5 and 7 were rejected of Akiyama in view of Karasawa et al. (U.S. Patent 6,491,396, hereinafter Karasawa). These rejections are respectfully traversed as to the claims now presented.

As previously indicated, the principal claim of the patent application is claim 1. That claim has been substantially amended, in accordance with the original disclosure. Nothing in Akiyama, of which Figures 2 and 7 might be considered the most pertinent, even comes close to what is described in amended claim 1. Karasawa, relied upon only with regard to the limitations of some of dependent claims, does not provide any suggestion for modifying Akiyama to produce the invention as defined by amended claim 1. Thus, that claim as well as the dependent claims 2-7 are clearly patentable over Akiyama considered by itself or in combination with Karasawa.

In re Appln. of SEKIGUCHI et al.
Application No. 10/629,669

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7 are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAW:tps

Amendment or ROA - Regular (Revised 10/21/04)

In re Appln. of SEKIGUCHI et al.
Application No. 10/629,669

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets include changes to Figures 10A, 11A, and 18A in which prior art labels are added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)